

HERGÉ  
THE ADVENTURES OF

# TINTIN THE SEVEN CRYSTAL BALLS



MAGNET



# THE SEVEN CRYSTAL BALLS

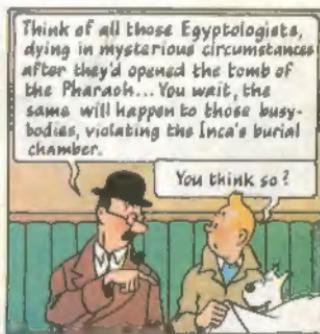
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## HOME AFTER TWO YEARS

*Sanders-Hardiman Expedition Returns*

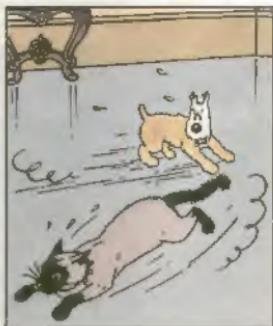
LIVERPOOL, Thursday. The seven members of the Sanders-Hardiman Ethnographic Expedition landed at Liverpool today. Back in Europe after a fruitful two-year trip through Peru and Bolivia, the scientists report that their travels took them deep into little-known territory. They discovered several Inca tombs, one of which contained a mummy still wearing a 'boria' or royal crown of solid gold. Funeral inscriptions establish beyond doubt that the tomb belonged to the Inca Rascac Capac.

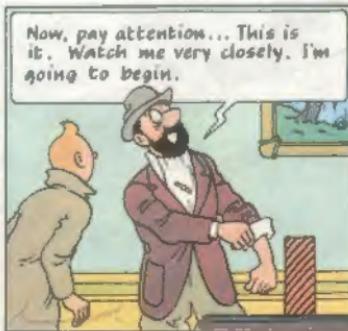
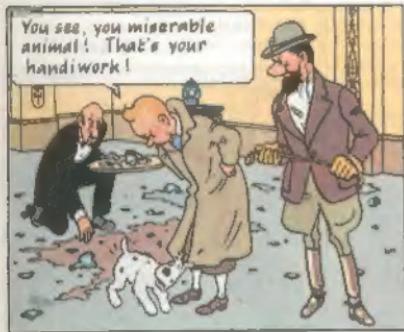






After you, I insist ...





Good... I place the cylinder over the glass... The glass which contains... Contains what?

Plain water.

Water, exactly... And now, quiet please! Watch carefully!

Presto!



And, voilà!... Now, would you kindly tell me, what have we in the glass under there?

In the glass? Water, I suppose.

Water!... HAHAHAHAHA!... Don't make me laugh!... HAHAHA!... This'll kill me!... HAHA!... Have a look!... Lift up the cylinder.

HAHAHAHA!... Water!... HOHOHOHO!... HAHAHAHA!



HAHAHAHA! HOHOHOHO!

HAHAHAHA!

I'm sorry, Captain, but there's something here I don't quite get. You see, it still is water in this glass...



Water!... That's a good one!... Water!... You're a real comic!... Water, he says!...

Billions of bilious blue blistering barnacles in a thundering typhoon! It IS water!



But what on earth did you expect it to be?

Whisky, by thunder!  
...Whisky!

Whisky?... Come now, Captain, you can't be serious. How in the world could water burn itself into whisky?... It's impossible!

Impossible! Impossible!... No, blistering barnacles, it's *not* impossible. He manages it every time!

Who's he?

Bruno, the master magician! He's appearing at the Hippodrome. I've studied his act for a solid fortnight, trying to discover how he does it...

Yesterday I thought I'd solved it at last. Blistering barnacles, what do I get? Water, water, and still more water! But I'm going back again tonight, and you're coming too! This time I'll get the answer!

You must watch carefully to see exactly what he does...

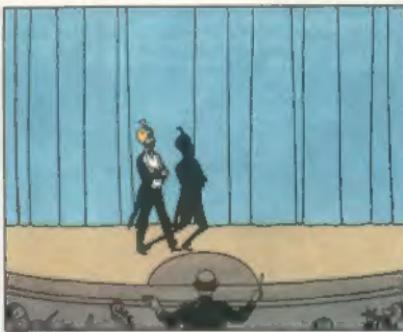
We've got plenty of time. There are several other turns before he comes on.

First we have Raggadam the fakir, with Tamilah, the amazing clairvoyante. Then Ramon Zanate, the knife-thrower. Next...

See! Here comes Raggadam the Fakir. He's incredible too.

Ladies and gentlemen, I have much pleasure in inviting you to participate in a remarkable experiment: an experiment I had the honour to...

... before his Highness the Maharajah of Hambalapur, and for which he invested me with the Order of the Grand Naja... The secret of the mysterious power at my command was entrusted to me by the famous yogi, Chandra Patnagar Rabad... And now, ladies and gentlemen, it is my privilege to introduce to you one of the most amazing personalities of the twentieth century...



I present: Madame Tamilah!



First I will put Madame Yamilah into a hypnotic trance...



Madame Yamilah, are you ready to answer me?

Yes, master...

Good... Tell me, Madame Yamilah, what is this gentleman's Christian Name?



Is that correct, sir?

Yes... quite correct!



Good... Now tell me, Madame Yamilah, what is in this lady's handbag?

A handkerchief, some keys, ... a diary... a powder compact... a driving licence...



And the number on that licence, Madame Yamilah?



Absolutely right!

Fantastic, isn't it?



Madame Yamilah, will you please tell me whether that lady there in the third row is married.

Yes, she is married.



Good... And what is her husband's profession?



Photographer.

Is that right, madam?



Quite right.



I see him... returning from a long journey to a distant land... He... he... What is happening?... He is ill... very ill... with a mysterious sickness



Look here, if this is a joke it's in very poor taste!... My husband is perfectly fit... This is absurd!

It is a deadly sickness... The vengeance of the Sun God is terrible indeed... His curse is upon him!

EEEEEK!



Ladies and gentlemen, we are interrupting the programme for a moment as we have an urgent message for a member of the audience... Will Mrs. Clarkson, who is believed to be here tonight, please return home immediately, as her husband has just been taken seriously ill.



No, it's impossible!... It must be a put-up job!

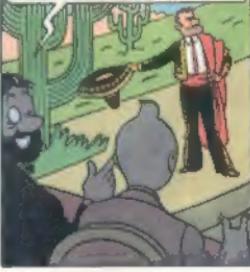
I don't think so... Clarkson was the name of the photographer who accompanied the Sanders-Hardiman expedition.



Ladies and gentlemen, this unfortunate incident has so upset Madame Yamileh that we are going straight on to the next number... It is our pleasure to bring to you the world-famous knife-thrower, Ramon Zarate!



You'll see; he's a remarkable fellow.



Haven't I seen that face somewhere before?



Señores and señoras, the performance I make for you is extremely peligroso... For favor, I ask if you so kindly keep absoluto silencio...



May I borrow your glasses for a moment, Captain?



Great snakes! It's General A cazar!

!

General who?

Alcazar... You remember, he used to be President of the Republic of San Theodoros. I wonder what's landed him on the music-hall stage.



Now, is muy dificil!

¡Olé!

Alcazar

General

Is more dificil

Now, is mucho more dificil

And now, señores and señoras, I perform for you, the first time done in Europe, the knife-throw with the eyes blindfold... Por favor, I ask someone come on to the stage to bandage for me the eyes.

There, that's it

MUCHAS  
GRACIAS,  
SEÑOR ...

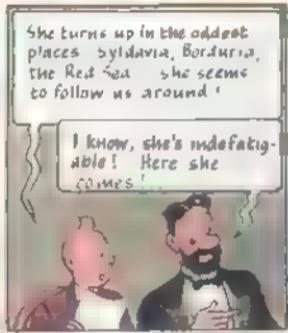
It almost went wrong three nights ago! The knife landed just on the edge of the target. Half an inch further and that Indian would have been skewered!



¿ Esta usted?

Si







Caramba! ... Tintin! ...  
My old Friend! ... Amigo  
mio, qué sorpresa! ... Ay!  
Dios de mi vida! How I  
am Happy to see you  
again.

And this person here  
is what?

You remember, my  
friend captain Haddock.

Los amigos de nuestros  
amigos son nuestros  
amigos! ... I am happy  
Señor Colonel, so  
happy!

Delighted!

Descuida, no es  
la policía.

Ah! bueno!

Poor Chiquito! ... You under-  
stand. Ever since police  
come to look at our pass-  
ports and our papers, he  
find police everywhere.

Yes, I quite  
see

Por favor, we cele-  
brate this happy  
meeting. You  
take with me a  
glass of aguardiente

Your good health, amigo mio!  
Your good health, Señor Colonel!

Here's to you,  
General!

Good  
health!

Look out, it's  
awfully strong!

Strong? ...  
Pooh! ... I'm  
used to it, my  
dear fellow...



You are surprised to see me  
tonight on the music-hall  
stage, No? ... That is life!  
What can we do? There  
is another revolution  
in my country ..

and that mangy dog,  
General Tapioca, has  
seized power. So, I must  
leave San Theodoros.  
After I try many different  
jobs, I become a knife-  
thrower.

Sorry to interrupt,  
but it's time we were  
getting back to our  
seats, otherwise  
we'll miss the con-  
juror.

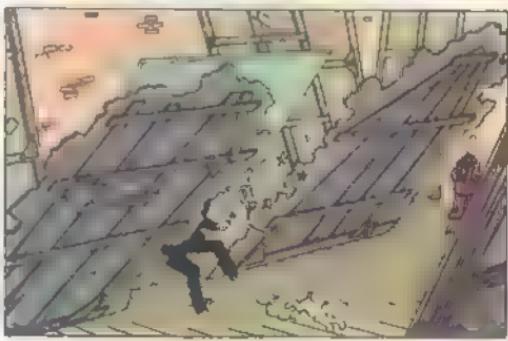
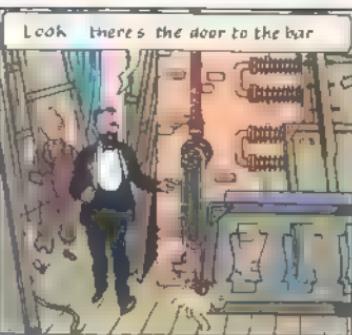
Yes, you're  
right

I'm very sorry we have to  
leave you so soon. You see,  
we rather want to watch the  
conjuror do his act... Goodbye,  
General

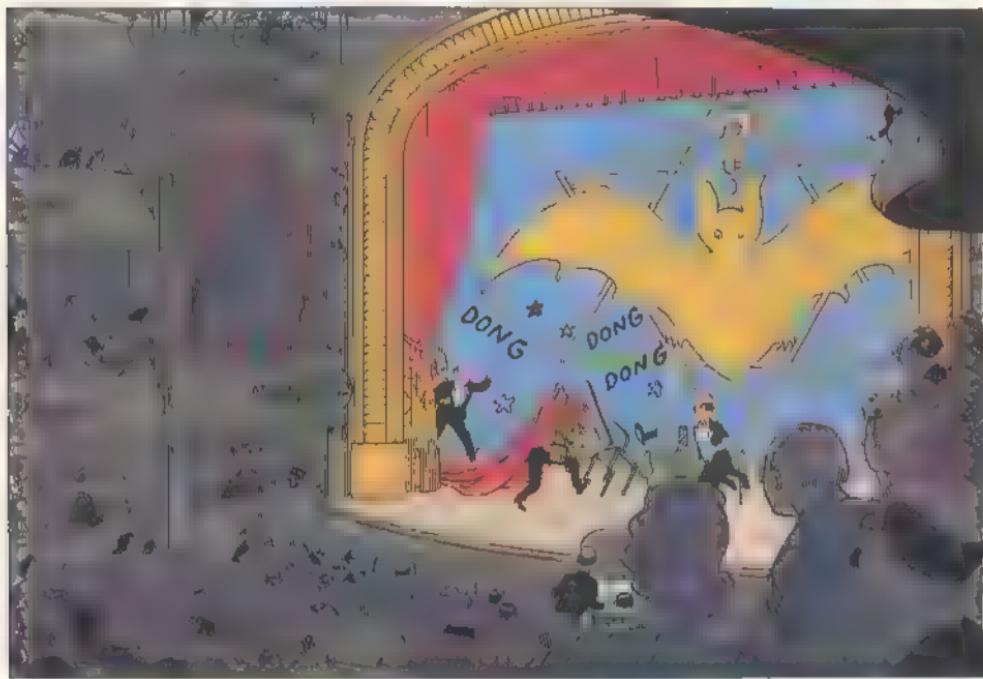
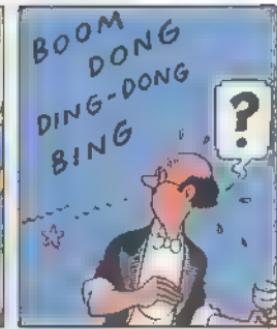
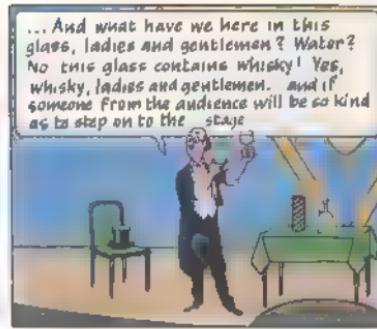
Adios, Amigo  
mio

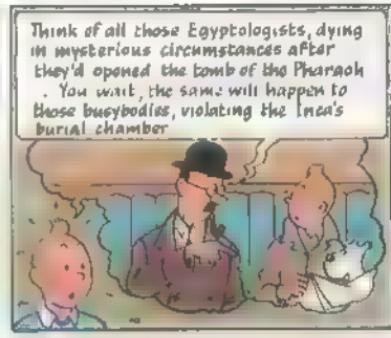
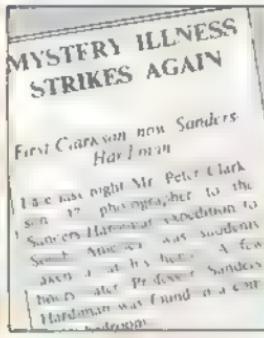
Quick, or we shall miss the turn!



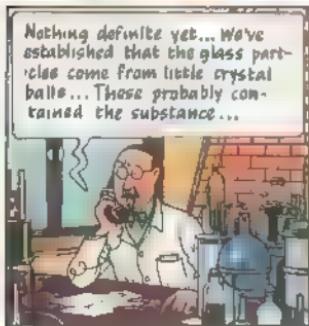
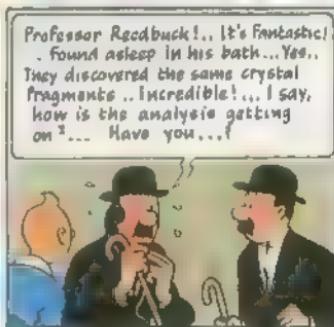
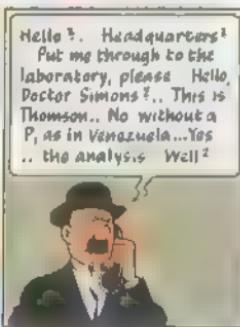
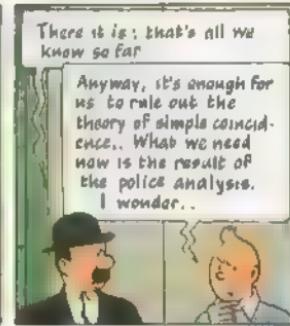








Strictly speaking, it isn't exactly an illness... The two victims were found asleep, one at his desk, the other in his library. According to a preliminary report, the explorers seem to have fallen into some sort of deep coma or hypnotic sleep.



We must warn the other members of the expedition at once! And we must get police protection for them

Why... You don't think that they... that we... that it...?

Of course! There's no reason why this should stop. Everyone who took part in the expedition is in danger. Let's see... Sanders-Hardiman, Clarkson, Reedbuck, that's three... Who were the others? ... Oh, yes! Mark Falconer. Ring up Mark Falconer.

Hello? Hello? Hello? Help?

It's always the same with the telephone: whenever you need it, it's guaranteed to be out of order!

There's no reply!

I hate to interfere, but if I were you I'd try using that.

Is that Mark Falconer?

Yes Falconer speaking...

Yes... yes... yes, I was just reading the paper... What? Professor Reedbuck too? ... And no... What's that? Crystal Fragments! ... By Jupiter, so he was telling the truth!

Who? An old Indian, who got drunk on coca one night. He told me. No, I can't explain over the telephone... No, I'll come along and see you... Where? Good!

I'll pick up a taxi and be with you right away. Meanwhile, warn Cantonneau, Midge and Tarragon. Tell them to stay indoors. And above all to keep away from the windows... Yes, windows... Me? Don't worry, I shall be on my guard... Goodbye for now, I'll be with you soon.

He's coming here. He seemed to know all about it... He said we should warn the other explorers, telling them not to go out and to keep away from the windows

Good, I'll warn Professor Cantonneau

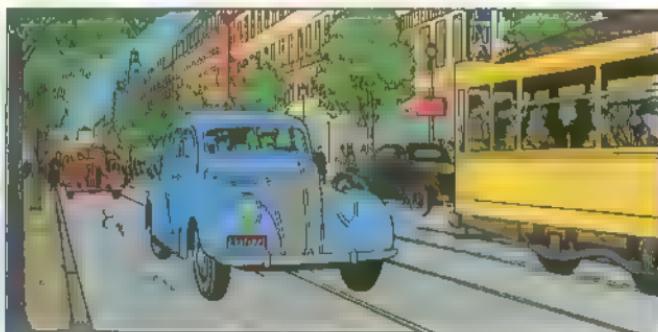
Great snakes! I can't get through! I must keep on trying!

If they put in an appearance, I'll be ready!



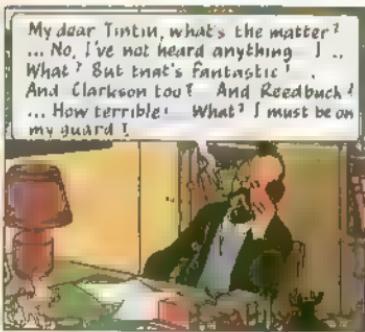
Twenty-six,  
Labrador Road

Right you are, sir.



Hello? Ah, it's you, Professor Cantonneau. Thank goodness I've caught you in time!

My dear Tintin, what's the matter? ... No, I've not heard anything ... What? But that's fantastic! And Clarkson too! And Reedbuch! ... How terrible! What? I must be on my guard!



Yea, be very careful... And above all, don't go near the window ... Yes, the window ... It's ...

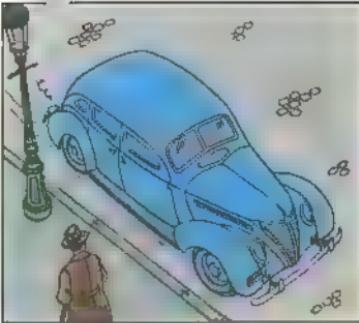
**ZZINGG**  
OH!... CLING  
CLING CLING  
CLING

Hello? Hello Professor Cantonneau ... Hello? ... Hello? Hello?

What's happened?



Something's happened to Professor Cantineau!.. I'm going straight round there .. You stay here and warn the other two explorers at once.



Hurry Snowy! Hurry!



The same crystal fragments!



Your passenger - he's been attacked! Tell me, did you stop anywhere on the way?

No... oh, yes. Once, at a junction, when the lights were against me



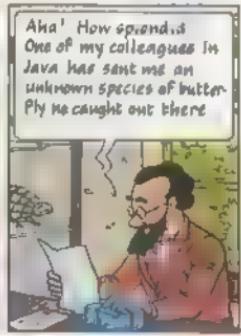
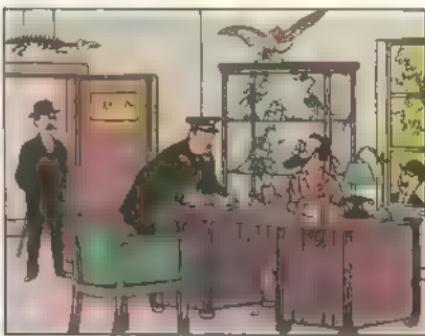
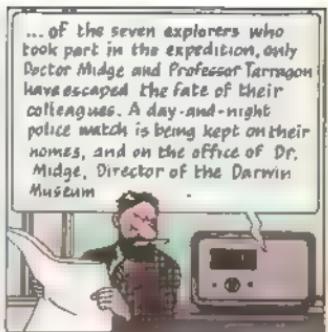
Now I remember! It must have happened then. Another Taxi drew up alongside mine, and I heard a faint sound of glass breaking. I didn't think much of it at the time. The lights changed and we moved off



I see. Go into the house and up to the first floor, where you'll find two police officers. Tell them your story. I'm off to warn Doctor Midge.

Righto!





We'd b-b-better open it... Keep  
c c calm!

That's right keep c c calm!

C c careful!

C c careful!

Whew! It's a bright false  
alarm. It's just a butterfly. And  
what a butterfly! . Look ..

It's magnificant!



Between ourselves, let's face  
it - that was a narrow  
escape

Between ourselves, to  
be precise : I agree!



Heh. All well?

Ah, it's  
Tintin



Yes all's well. But we had a nar-  
row escape. We've just opened a  
parcel which looked rather  
suspicious. Luckily, it was only a  
butterfly. Look more it is

What a  
beauty!



Good I see Dr Midge's door is  
we guarded. What about his  
window?

His window? I'm guarding  
that. What more need I say?



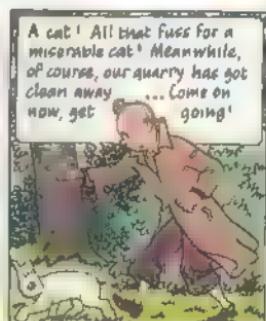
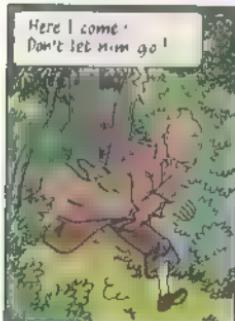
You're guarding his win-  
dow? Then what are  
you doing in here?

Great Scotland  
Yard, I

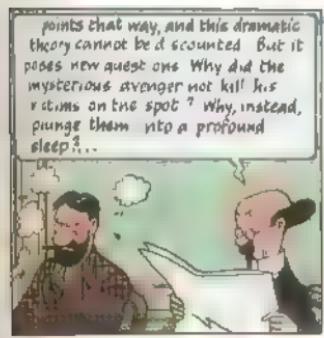
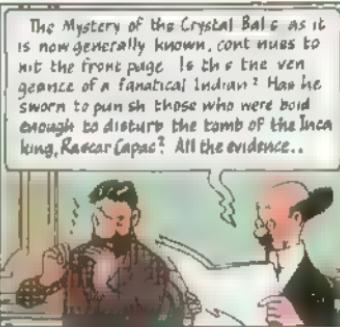
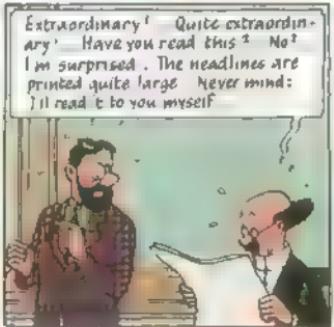


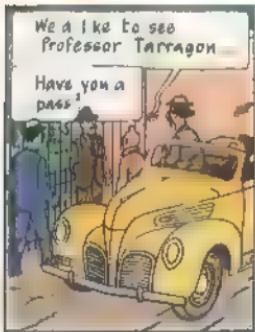
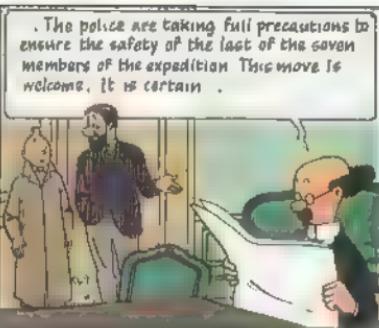
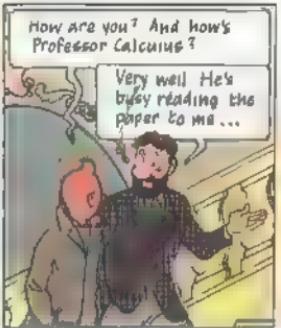
Z ZING  
CLING  
CLING





The next morning .







HA - HA - HA - HA - HA !



Here's the culprit. Our friend Rascar Capac frightened your dog . Rascar Capac he who-unleashes-the-fire-of heaven.



BOOM



What about that? We were just talking about Rascar Capac he who-unleashes the fire of heaven and I think he's going to oblige look



Did you hear that? ...Sounded like a shot outside...

BANG



Quick, let's see what's happening...



Over there . . . a man running . It's one of the Detectives guarding the house



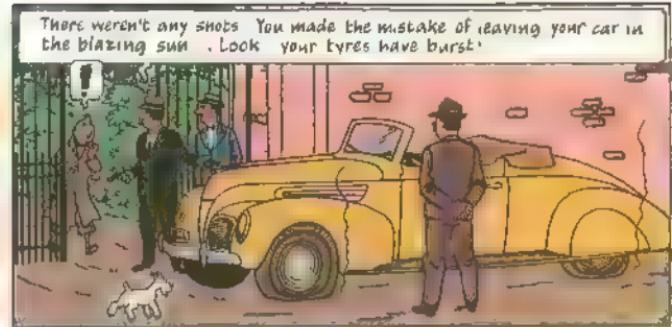
That came from the direction of the gates



What were those two shots?



There weren't any shots. You made the mistake of leaving your car in the blazing sun. Look, your tyres have burst!



Well, what was it?



Nothing, just a couple of tyres bursting.



A couple of tyres... a couple of tyres on my car!... Blistering barnacles, and you call that nothing?



Blue blistering barnacles in a thundering typhoon!



Now what are we going to do? Two tyres, and I've only got one spare!



It's quite simple: you spend the night here... then tomorrow morning you can phone the garage.



This is it, here comes the rain. Let's get indoors, quickly!



Excuse me, Hercules, but I think there's someone knocking at the door.



Everything all right?...Good, good...  
At any rate, the false alarm did  
prove that the house is well  
guarded

Yes, it certainly seems  
to be. But still, we  
must be very care-  
ful.

By the way, Professor, what do you  
make of this whole business of the  
crystal balls?

What do I make of it?  
Not much...But as a matter  
of fact, I've drafted a  
paper

.. on the occult practices  
of ancient Peru. It seems  
to have some bearing  
but I doubt if it will  
solve our problem

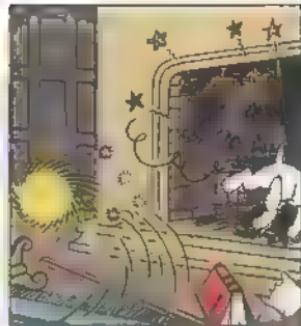
Look at this... it's a translation  
of part of the inscriptions  
carved on the walls of Rascar  
Capac's tomb. You may like  
to read it

"After many moons will come seven strang-  
ers with pale faces, they will profane the  
sacred dwellings of he-who-unleashes-  
the-Fire-of-heaven. These vandals will  
carry the body of the Inca to their own  
far country. But the curse of the gods  
will be as their shadow and pursue  
them over land and sea..."

But... but... this is quite  
extraordinary!

Isn't it?... But  
read the next  
bit...





Rascal Capac's disappeared!...  
Vaporized!... Vanished into thin air!  
There's nothing left but the ~~curse~~!



But Professor Tarragon...  
what's the matter?

[ it's nothing...  
Read the rest... the  
rest of my translation



The prophecy is fulfilled... Rascal Capac has gone and I am struck down by his curse... I feel it!

Me too! And it smells  
very strong sulphur,  
isn't it?



Don't give in! The house  
is well guarded; you know  
that. Where do you  
sleep?



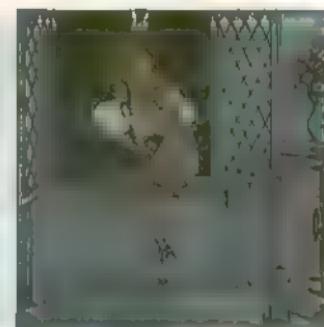
In the next room.  
There are no  
windows.

"There will come a day when Rascal Capac will bring down upon himself the cleansing fire. In one moment of flame he will return to his true element, on that day will punishment descend upon the desecrators."

Excuse me, Hercules



Some hours later...



! Whew! What a relief... It was only a dream... The gale blew the window open!

Still, it was a horrible nightmare.

HELP!... HELP!

That's the Captain's voice!

THUMP

What's happened, Captain? I thought I heard you shout us

Yes! I had a frightful nightmare! Rascacapac came into my room... He had a huge crystal ball in his hand... he hurled it down on the floor.

Incredible! The same dream again!

OOH OOH

Now what's it?

LOOK OUT! He's there! He's after me! He's COMING!

He's there, I tell you! ... It's him... the Indian from downstairs! ... He came into my room ... He was brandishing a huge crystal ball!

Good heavens! It's the same dream again... How fantastic!

All the same, let's have a look



You see? No one'... He was only dreaming like us



Snowy! ... Look at snowy!



Strange! ... He's certainly smelt something.



Look, he's going down the stairs! I wonder what ...

Ssh! Quiet!



Mind the carpet!

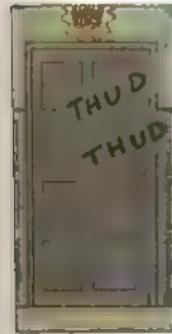


BANG BING  
BONKABONK



Billions of  
blue billions  
blistering  
barnacles  
in a thunder-  
ing typhoon!





But it's impossible  
every single exit is  
guarded



Professor Tarragon!  
Professor Tarragon!



There's nothing we can do. The  
crystal ball has done its work... and  
claimed the last of the seven.

ZZZZ  
ZZZZ.



Quick, the window  
must have gone that  
way



But no... the window and  
the shutter are closed tight  
... it's incredible!



Has anyone gone  
past you?

No sir, no one  
at all.  
Why?



This absolutely beats  
me... How did the  
fellow make his  
getaway?



Oh! Look over there!  
Rascar Capac's jewels  
have disappeared!



WOOAH!  
WOOAH!



There! That's how it was  
done. The attacker came  
and went by the chimney!

Wooah!  
Wooah!



Well, if he went up here there's  
still time. He can't have got  
clean away.



Well, now we know! He did use  
the chimney!

The roof! Search  
the roof!

Over there! .. Look!.. There's  
a man running away!

Very good, sir

Got him!

He's fallen!  
Quick, let's see

He fell somewhere  
about here.

Seek Snowy  
Seek him out!

There's nothing I'd  
like better, but

Oh so that's it! Snowy's  
nose is still caked  
with soot... He  
can't possibly  
smell anything  
else!

AAAAAAAAAAH!

That was Professor Tarragon's voice!

Blistering barnacles! They're murdering him!... Come on, hurry!

Help!

AAAHH!

Mercy! Mercy!

They're coming back! I can see them! They're going to smother me!

Keep away, you devils! They'll tear me to pieces!

It's all right Professor Tarragon, it's all right. There's no one here... only your friends.

But now what? Look, he's fallen back into a coma.

No luck, the thug escaped us... Now, I wonder what's going on back there at the house.

He screamed and shouted, he seemed to be suffering horribly... Then suddenly he calmed down. I think it would be an idea to call in a doctor.

The next morning

Hmm... yes... It's certainly a clear case of acute coma... Look, his muscles are absolutely relaxed, his limbs completely inert...

YEOW!

They're coming back! They'll start again - tormenting me! ... Help, help!



They're coming! ... Get away, you torturers! ... Help me! ... Help!



Oh, it's you? ... Good morning! Is Hercules there?



Going round the estate? Good! I'll join him.



Where is he?



I can't see him.



Still, that's easy. I'll find him with my pendulum.



Hello, what's happening?



Peculiar, very peculiar! wonder



Hat, umbrella, spectacles, pendulum, that's the lot on we go!



Goodness gracious! How extraordinary! There must be something behind these bushes



?



Well, well, well...  
What have we here?

A bracelet! Well I never!  
It's the one that was on  
the mummy!.. How very  
curious... How did it come  
to be here?

Magnificent!... It's  
obviously made of  
solid gold... I'll put it  
on and go indoors wear-  
ing it and see if they  
notice

Really splendid. And  
how well it goes with  
my coat!

A few minutes later.

Calculus?... Out in the garden...  
I expect he's hard at work with  
his pendulum. Wait, I'll go  
and find him

Now where's old  
Cuthbert got to?

Strange, I'm sure  
he said he was  
going in... to the  
garden.

Hello... Did you find him?

No, he wasn't there.  
He's probably back in  
his room... I'll go up  
and look...

No, he's not in his room.  
That's rather odd

Let's go back into the garden.  
I expect we'll find him in  
the shrubbery with that beloved pen-  
dulum of his.

CALCULUS!  
CALCULUS!

It's no good  
shouting for him!

Now where's the old goat hidden  
himself?... Calculus!!!

CALCULUS!

?

CAPTAIN! Captain!  
LOOK UP THERE!

Bloodstains! The print  
of a hand!.. What  
does that mean? Who  
could have...

Who?.. The intruder last  
night, I'll bet.. No wonder we  
couldn't find him. Wounded,  
and chased like that, he didn't  
know which way to turn.. so he  
took refuge in the top of this  
tree...

But.. he could still be  
up there..

You're right... I'm going  
to see for my-  
self...

Do be careful! Take my gun  
with you

Good idea.  
Thanks.

Any luck?

No, I still can't  
see anything...

GRAG

Final right Captain  
Only a rotten  
branch breaking

You're  
What?  
all right eh?  
above me?

There's no one here  
now. I'm coming down

CAPTAIN! Over  
there, to your right  
look!.. More to the  
right.. more!.. There,  
you've got it!

It's Calculus &  
umbrella!



It is his, isn't  
it?

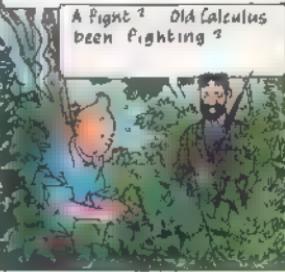


Yes, of course it is  
How in the

Look there ...  
The grass is all  
trampled down

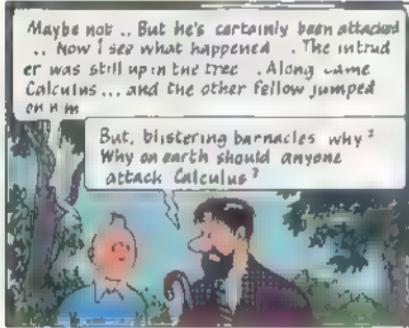


And these broken branches  
... There's been a fight here!



Maybe not ... But he's certainly been attacked  
... Now I see what happened ... The intruder  
was still up in the tree ... Along came  
Calculus ... and the other fellow jumped  
on him

But, blistering barnacles why?  
Why on earth should anyone  
attack Calculus?



I don't know, Captain,  
I don't know All  
I do know is that  
Professor Calculus  
has disappeared, and  
we've got to find him



SNOWY!  
SNOWY!  
SNOWY!



Snowy!  
Snowy!  
Snowy!



You can have your bone  
back in a minute,  
Snowy. But first of  
all you must try to  
find the Professor.



Seek snowy, seek him out!  
Go on Quick!



Is he in there?



Look out, Captain! Look out!

Take cover!

Why? ... What  
is it?



Take cover!



Cannibals! Caterpillars!  
Troglodytes! Tramps!  
Ectoplasms! Sea gherkins!

Captain! I'm going  
to crawl round to the  
summer-house. You  
fire a shot from time  
to time... Here's your  
gun. I'll throw it  
across

There'

THANKS!

Now my fine fellow,  
see how you like  
this!

BANG  
CRACK

BANG

If I could just get  
that bone back. Steady  
now! Wait for it...

BANG

Haha! So I get  
t' Smart  
work, eh?

BANG

BANG





'Tribes of savages'  
'Vampires' 'Monsters'

Here, Captain... I've  
got the car number...  
We're not beaten yet...  
Come on, quickly!

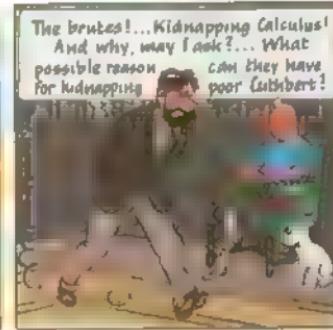
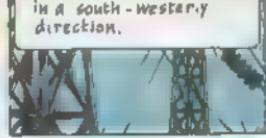
The inspector will  
pass the number  
on to his headquar-  
ters at once...

The rats!

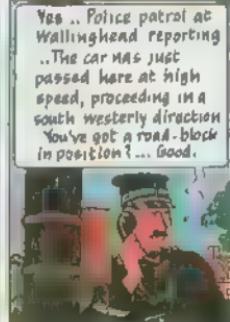
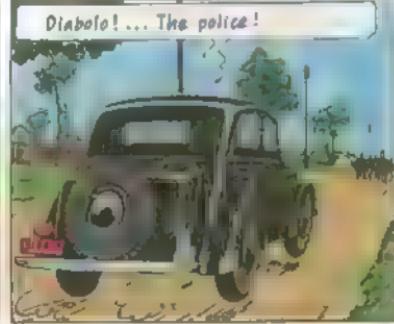
Hello, Headquarters? This  
is Chambers... Yes... One  
of Professor Tarragon's  
friends has been kidnapped  
... Professor Cuthbert Cal-  
culus... Yes, in a car... I'll  
give you its number and a  
description

An Opel

Headquarters to all stations  
Calling all cars. Arrest  
occupants of black saloon  
car model Opel Olympia  
registration number 317413  
proceeding from Harlesford  
in a south-westerly  
direction.



We I, that's that... There  
are police check-points  
on all the roads in this  
area... They won't  
escape us... Never  
Fear



Look there's a car coming



Here comes another



Dad! Where can they have gone?



Kidnapping Calculus Band of thugs... Why pick on Calculus?... And why did he have to go walking in the garden, anyway?



Ah! Now we know



What? You haven't seen them? But it's ages since they went past us!... They almost ran us down!



It beats me! Which way did they go? Ah a workman I'll have a word with him.



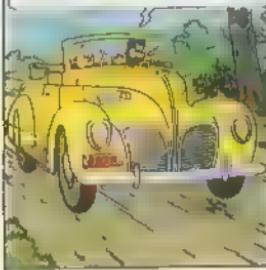
A back car? I don't know if it's the one you're looking for, but a car turned down there about three quarters of an hour ago.. to the right, into the wood.



Good Thanks



Hest of rattlesnakes! Pirates! Bashi bazoiks!



You found it here! Abandoned, I like this!

Yes. But the occupants won't get far. The whole area is condemned off, and we're bearing the wood. The man they've kidnapped - is he a friend of yours?



It's Calculus, you poor loon! Calculus! The salt of the earth with a heart of gold! He's been kidnapped by those devils! Why? I ask you. Thundering typhoons, d'you know why?



Well, Sherlock Holmes.. Have you found anything?



Could be.

I say, officer you were at one of the road blocks weren't you? So you should have seen a large fawn-coloured car go by...



A large fawn Just 1st think... car me

Good heavens, you're right !  
A fawn car did pass us... A  
saloon... I stopped it myself

You didn't think of  
taking the number ?



Good !... Well, you can call off  
the beaters... It's a waste of  
time. The kidnappers are far away.

Oh, yes ? How do you  
know that ?



Spots of fawn paint... The lane  
is narrow. In turning, one of the  
wings of the car scraped against  
this tree, leaving traces of  
paint



The car used by the kidnappers  
is a large fawn saloon...  
Good... "The occupants are be-  
lieved to be of South American  
origin..." That's right... "Any-  
one who can give any informa-  
tion is asked to get in touch  
with the nearest police  
station immediately"



No... why should I ?... But wait a  
bit... The driver looked like a foreigner  
Spanish, or South American, or  
something like that... Fattish, sun-  
tanned, black moustache and side-  
boards, horn-rimmed glasses...

And the others?... There  
were some others.  
I suppose ?



Yes, there was someone sitting  
beside him... Another foreigner,  
I'd say: dark hair, bony face,  
hooked nose, thin lips... I think  
there were two other men in  
the back, but I only caught  
a glimpse of them



How do I know? Look at these tracks...  
Here are the tyre-marks of the Opel. But  
here are some others, different tyres,  
Dunlop I'd say: the tyres of the car that  
was waiting for the Opel

Look here...



The crooks! So they switched  
cars !

Come on, we must pass  
all this on to the police  
at once. Perhaps they'll  
be able to catch them  
further on...



The next morning

Let's see Ah, here ..



Oh well, there's still  
some hope left...



RRRING  
RRRING



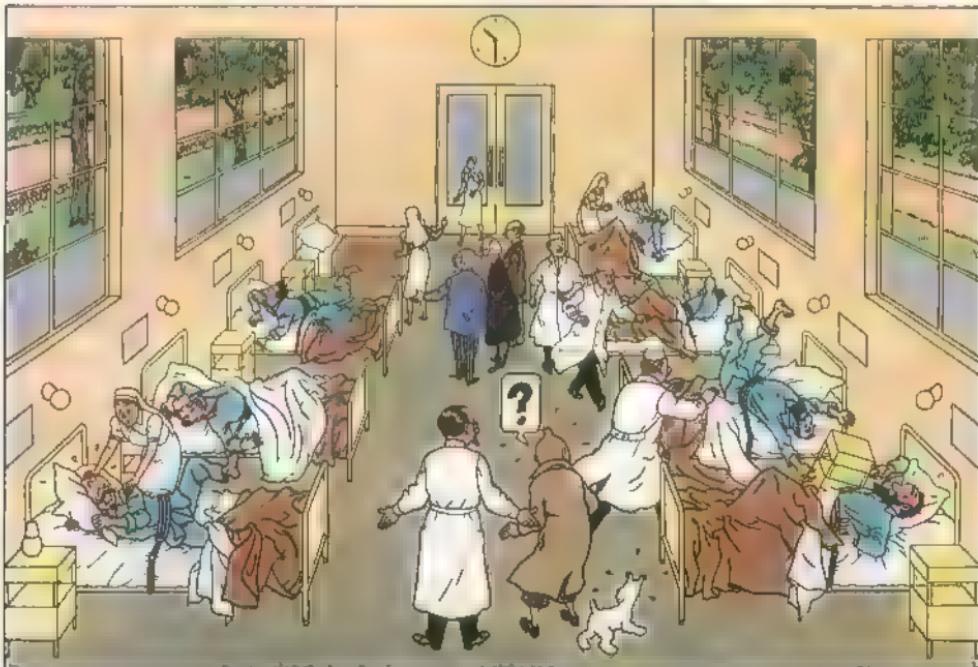
Hello, this is Thomson...  
Yes, without a P I say,  
there's something very  
queer going on at the  
hospital where the seven  
explorers are detained... I  
think you'd better slip round  
there

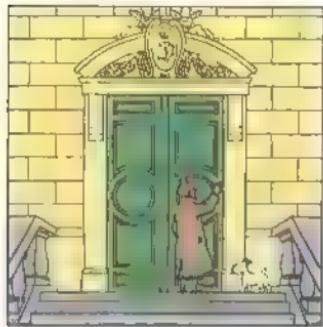
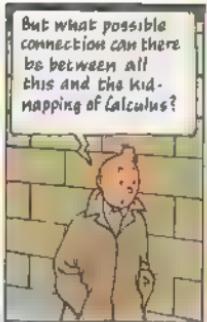


It's really serious? I  
can't believe it! What?  
Yes Of course. Don't  
worry, I'll go round at  
once



Some of the leading consultants in this field are in the ward now, waiting for the symptoms to appear

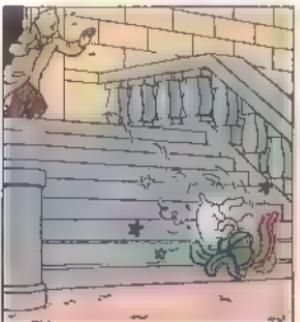
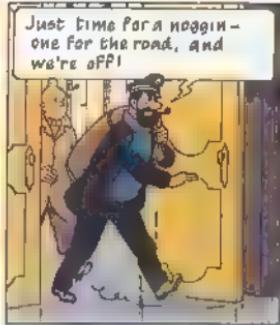




What d.d you say? At a garage. Two days ago! Then they went off again? Ten thousand thundering typhoons!

Once and for all will you leave that cat alone?





Meanwhile...



Just one more  
tot. the last...



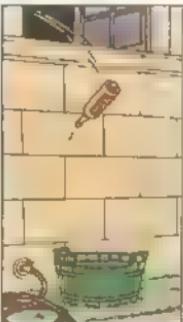
My poor, poor  
friend What has  
become of you?



Here's to you, Cuthbert old  
chap. We'll find you, I promise  
-dead or alive



As I've told you before -  
more to the west!



Min-m-m-m!  
This is what I  
call water!



A few minutes later

And now Captain, will you please tell me where we're going?

To Westermouth

The police rang me. The fawn car was seen near there two days ago by a garage hand. They stopped at a pump for petrol, then left, heading towards the docks. Undoubtedly the kidnappers have boarded a ship with Calulus. And so will we.

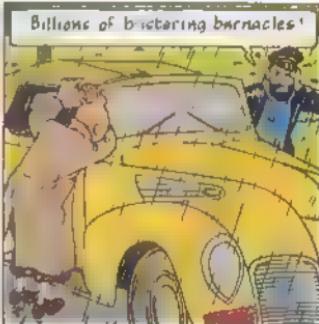
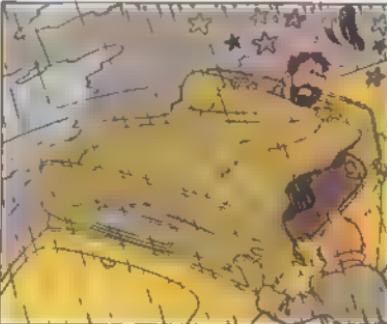
... by thunder and snatch him from the grasp of those iconoclasts, those vampires those. And just think' Westermouth, docks, jetties the ocean, the sea breeze whipping the spray in your face..

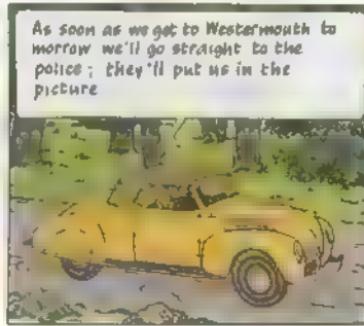
As for the spray, Captain, you've got your wish!

Blistering barnacles! Quick the hood or we'll be drenched!

What's up?

Thundering typhoon, it's stuck! .. Something's caught up... I'll try to do it from inside the car..





I'm sorry, there's nothing fresh... It was a fawn car all right, but was it the one containing your friend? It was seen heading for Westermouth and since then nothing... it has simply vanished.



The search is continuing, that's all I can tell you. But in my opinion there's very little chance. Excuse me

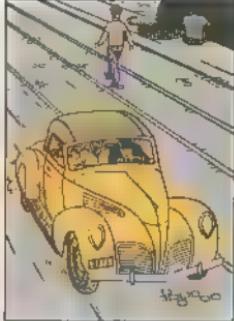


Hello? Yes, this is Inspector Jackson. Yes, again? What? Where? In one of the docks?... Well I'm...! There's no mistake about it?... Excellent



Well, gentlemen, you're in luck! The fawn car has just been recovered from one of the docks. If you'd like to come with me, we'll go and have a look.

Thanks very much!



It was a trawler, coming in. She struck an obstacle so we dragged the dock... And there you are.

Is there any means of identification?

Number plate? ... Licence? ... Engine number?



Nothing at all, sir. There are no number plates, and the engine and chassis numbers have been filed off. It's a mass-produced car, so there isn't much chance of ever finding out.

Yes, I see.



Anyway, we can be certain of one thing: whoever kidnapped Professor Calculus embarked here, having first tried to get rid of the car by dumping it in the dock.

Yes... perhaps...



We must act at once... we'll radio a description of your friend to all the ships that have sailed from Westermouth since the twelfth. Then we'll see what happens.

Thanks, Inspector - and you'll let us know how things are going?



All things considered, we're not much further on.

I know.



Hello, she's leaving for South America... and the kidnappers could be aboard... with poor Calculus.



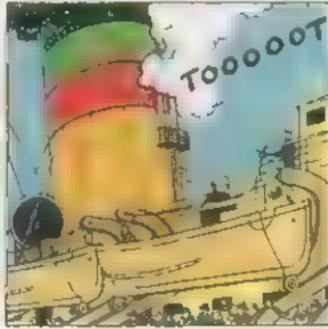
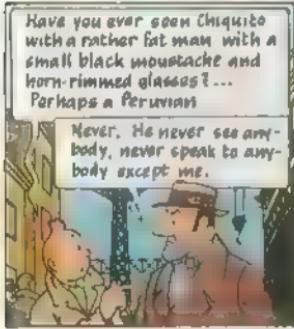
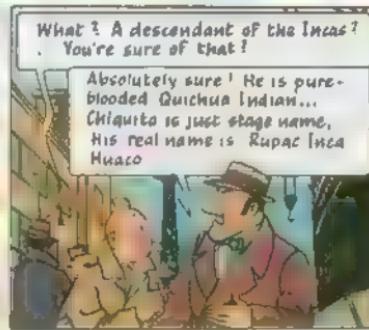
Great snakes... That looks like... Yes, it is!

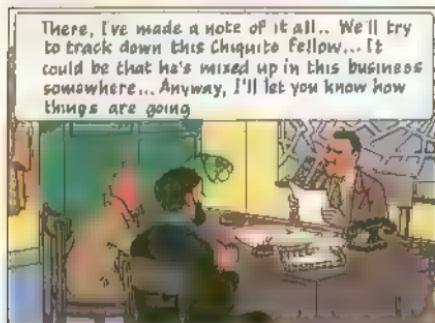
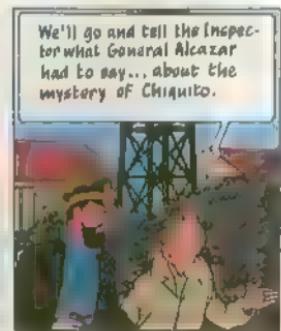
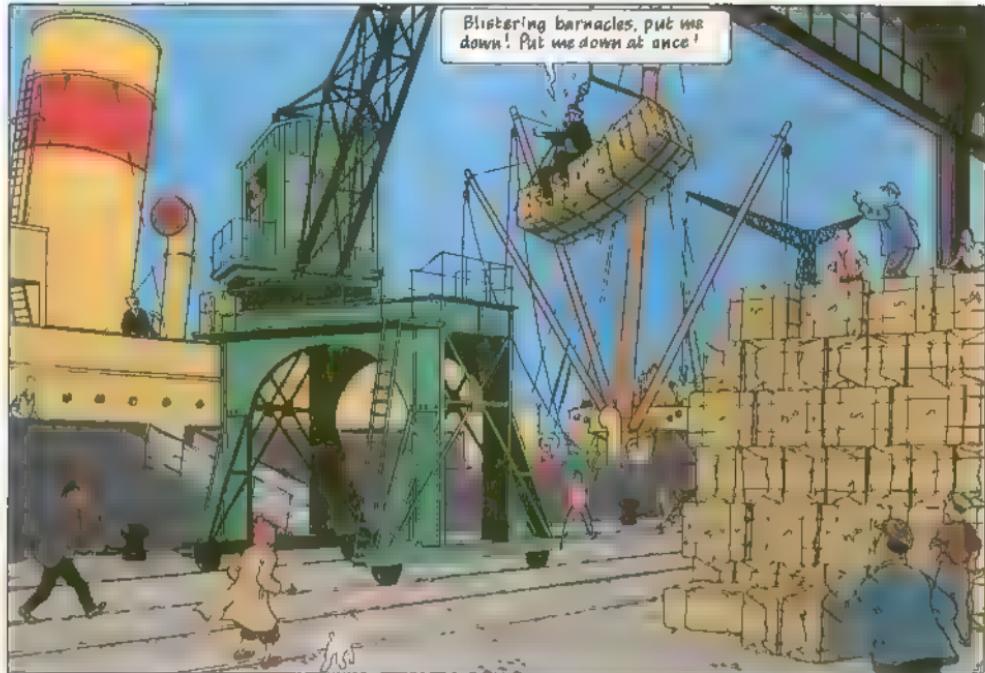


Hey! Who are you?

Police!







Why don't we go and say hello to your friend Captain Chester? His ship "Sirius" is lying at Bridgeport... You said so yesterday.

Good For you!  
Let's go...



Now where's the "Sirius"? Chester told me he was berthed at Quay No. 18... We'll have to ask someone...



The "Sirius" ?... Yes, she was here... She sailed on this morning's tide... That's hard luck!



Hard luck! It certainly is! If only we had some news of calculus... the smallest clue...



It's the classic joke!... A stone hidden under an old hat!

Oww!  
Yoww!!  
Yeoww!!!



There, Captain, look! Those boys... they did it!



Vagabonds!... Hooligans!... Iconoclasts!...



Captain! Captain! Don't do that! It's terribly dangerous!



Yes, you're right... Anyway, they're well out of range!

!



Still, if I get my hands on the young jackanapes they won't forget Captain Hazard dock in a hurry!

!





Captain! ... Captain! ... I've got Calculus's hat!



Old Cuthbert's little round hat! ... That's why Snowy insisted on retrieving it ... Look at the initial!

C.C.: Cuthbert Calculus! ... But then ...



Calculus wasn't taken aboard at Westermouth. It was here at Bridgeport ... But what ship?

... And what was her destination? ... That's what we need to know.

But how can we find out?



I've got it! We must try to find those two lads who played the trick with the hat.

Yes! I'll teach the young pirates a thing or two!



On the contrary, Captain, you'll be very nice to them ... After all, thanks to them we found the hat ... and we want them to tell us how they came by it themselves.

Oh, yes ...



Good old Snowy: because of you we've made a wonderful discovery ... Now we want you to help us again ... We must find those two scamps ... you ran after them, remember?



An hour later ...



Hey, what's bitten you!



Hello there!



Don't worry, we're not looking for trouble. We just want to know where you found this hat!



... the "Black Cat" ... When they lifted one of the crates out of the shed, I saw the hat underneath, all flattened out ... Honestly, it wasn't my idea to play that trick ... It was my friend ...



Well, your friend had a jolly good idea ... Didn't he, Captain?



Now, Captain, to the harbour master's office. We'll ask them when the packing-cases came into the warehouse.



The cases? ... They arrived on the fourteenth, by rail ... This morning they were loaded aboard the "Black Cat".



On the thirteenth?... Let's see... Yes, the "Pachacamac", a Peruvian merchantman. She arrived from Callao on the tenth with a cargo of guano; she sailed again for Callao on the fourteenth with a load of timber.

Fine, I'm most grateful to you.

As I see it, Calculus was kidnapped by Chiquito, a Peruvian Indian; he's aboard the "Pachacamac", a Peruvian ship, bound for a Peruvian port!

But, thundering typhoons, we must go after those gangsters at once! WE must rescue him!

Agreed! We'll leave for Peru as soon as we can... Tomorrow, or the day after. Now I'm going to ring up the Inspector and tell him what we've discovered.

Good. And I'll telephone Nestor to tell him we're leaving.

Hello... yes, speaking... What? The Professor's hat?... You... Oh!... Yes... Of course... The "Pachacamac"... for Callao... It seems a very strong lead... Yes, I'll make the necessary arrangements... What? You're going to Callao? But that's absurd!... As you like... When are you leaving?... Right... Goodbye, and good luck!



The next day...



Excuse me, but that isn't the plane for South America taking off, is it?

Yes, that's her.



Oh dear! Oh dear! What a calamity! What a terrible calamity... The master! My poor, poor master!

What's up? Anything serious?

It is indeed! The master has left without a single spare monocle!



Now off to Peru!... We shall be in Callao well before the "Pachacamac". We'll get in touch with the police there at once, and as soon as the ship arrives, we'll rescue Calculus.

Yes, that's all very fine, but I wonder if it will be as easy as you think...

